

DDO CUTS

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(CIA PERSONNEL)

(BY DANIEL GILMORE)

WASHINGTON (UPI) - THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REVEALED TODAY THERE WILL BE FEWER MANPOWER CUTS IN THE SPY AGENCY'S CLANDESTINE SERVICES THAN HAD BEEN ANTICIPATED - ABOUT 100 RATHER THAN THE 820 PLANNED ORIGINALLY.

AGENCY OFFICIALS DENIED WIDESPREAD PUBLICITY AND CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURES PLAYED A PART IN THE DECISION TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF FIRINGS IN THE CIA'S DIRECTORATE OF OPERATIONS - THE UNIT CONCERNED WITH OVERSEAS CLANDESTINE AND COVERT OPERATIONS.

WHEN STANSFIELD TURNER TOOK OVER AS DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE A YEAR AGO HE INHERITED PLANS TO CUT SOME 1,500 POSITIONS FROM THE OPERATIONS DIRECTORATE WHICH HAD GROWN RAPIDLY DURING THE VIETNAM WAR. IN THE SERIES ANNOUNCED TODAY, THE CIA SAID ONLY 50 PERSONS MAY EVENTUALLY LOSE THEIR JOBS OUT OF THE 212 NOTIFIED LAST YEAR AND ANOTHER 50 OR EVEN LESS, MAY BE DISMISSED IN THE FINAL GROUP.

THE REMAINDER ARE BEING TAKEN CARE OF BY ATTRITION, TRANSFERS TO OTHER JOBS WITHIN THE AGENCY OR OTHER FEDERAL POSITIONS, RETIREMENT AND RESIGNATIONS.

IN A NEWS, TURNER SAID, "OUR CURRENT ESTIMATES INDICATE THAT THE REDUCTION CAN BE HELD CLOSER TO 50 THAN THE 225 ORIGINALLY PLANNED. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE DIRECTORATE IS REACHING THE POSTURE WHERE IT CAN PROVIDE CHALLENGING WORK FOR ALL EMPLOYEES AND THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PROMOTION FOR THOSE WHO DESERVE IT."

A CIA SPOKESMAN SAID THE SECOND PHASE OF REDUCTIONS IN THE OPERATIONS DIRECTORATE WILL BE THE "FINAL STEP IN THIS CUTBACK."

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